Review of Indian History Books

1814. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have, at any time, considered the desirability of reviewing the Indian History books with a view to clean it from the influence of communal passions and hatred among the communities as a step towards promoting communal harmony and feelings of brotherhood among the various communities in the country particularly the younger generation and the coming generations;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this direction; and

(c) if the nswer to part (a) above be in the negative whether Government propose to review the Indian History books?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government in 1981 initiated a programme of evaluation of school textbooks from the standpoint of National Integration. Language and History text books were taken up for review in the first phase. It is being implemented on a decentralised basis by the State Governments on the guidelines prepared by the NCERT. It is being undertaken with a view to promote a sense of National Integration among students and also to identify and eliminate materials and approaches which may directly or indirectly perpetuate untouchability, racialism, regionalism, casteism, communalism, etc. The review of language and History textbooks has been completed in almost all the States/UTs. The States/UTs have been requested to have a bulk in-sysem to continuous evaluation of textbooks as part of the system of textbook prepa'raion and development.

(c) Does not arise.

Issue of State Transport Authority Permits

1815. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria laid down by the Directorate of Transport, Delhi for issuing of 'STA' permits to private parties for running of buses on various routes in the Union Territory of Delhi and on inter-State routes.

(b) whether the Directorate of Transport in consultation with the Central Government have recently taken any decision to issue 'STA' permits for various new routes as well as on existing routes, mini buses etc. to private individuals and others, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the administrative, economical and technical difficulties the Directorate of Transport, Delhi are having for not issuing 'STA' permits referred to above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The criteria followed by STA, Delhi for issue of fresh stage carriage permits is the same as laid down in Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) While in the past STA permits were granted to private parti s including unemployed graduates, ex servicemen and members of SC/ST. The existing policy is to grant new stage carriage permits to DTC only to enable provision of coordinated and economical transport services to the computers.

Recognised Non-aided Public Schools in Delhi

1816. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of